

Message Text

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70

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SNM-02 EUR-12 SS-15 SP-02 DEAE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05

OES-03 OMB-01 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 /074 R

DRAFTED BY S/NM:RADUGSTAD:OSG

APPROVED BY S/NM:SBVANCE

ARA:WDROGERS

EUR/SOV:JGLASSMAN (SUBS)

IO:JBUCZACKI (SUBS)

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O R 202158Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 198161

GENEVA FOR B. GOUGH

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: PRESIDENCY OF CND

REF: MEXICO'S 6343; 6496; 6896

REFTELS HAVE BEEN CAREFULLY CONSIDERED IN DEPARTMENT AND
YOU MAY RESPOND TO DR. CASTRO Y CASTRO ALONG FOLLOWING
LINES:

1. DR. CASTRO'S DISCUSSION OF THE RULES CONCERNING THE
SELECTION OF CND PRESIDENT PRESENTS A NUMBER OF ARGUMENTS
WHICH MIGHT FIND SUPPORT AMONG CND MEMBERS. HOWEVER, WE
PREFER NOT TO TAKE A POSITION ON MEXICO'S CLAIM BASED ON
THE PROCEDURES, RULES, AND PRECEDENTS AS THEY MIGHT BE
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INTERPRETED AND APPLIED BY THE CND MEMBERSHIP. WE WOULD
PREFER TO LOOK ON THIS AS AN EXTRAORDINARY SITUATION IN
WHICH WE WOULD CONSIDER CASTING OUR VOTE FOR OJEDA PAULLADA
OUT OF SUBSTANTIVE CONSIDERATIONS, I.E., OUR CLOSE FRIEND-

SHIP WITH THE GOM AND OUR MUTUAL COOPERATION IN THE STRUGGLE TO CONTROL NARCOTICS.

2. WE RECOGNIZE ATTORNEY GENERAL OJEDA PAULLADA HAS OUTSTANDING QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE CND PRESIDENCY. WE

UNDERSTAND, OF COURSE, THE KEY ROLE HE PLAYS IN THE MEXICAN EFFORT AGAINST NARCOTICS AND KNOW WELL THE SUCCESS HE HAS ACHIEVED IN THAT CONNECTION. CERTAINLY HE WOULD HAVE OUR FULL SUPPORT IN CARRYING OUT THE TASKS OF THE CND IN THE NEXT SESSION IF HE WERE ELECTED. ON THESE POINTS WE ARE IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT WITH DR. CASTRO'S AIDE MEMOIRE.

3. CONTROLLING THE ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFIC FROM MEXICO IS A MAJOR U.S. INTEREST. MEXICO'S COOPERATION IN THIS EFFORT IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE U.S. AND WE SEE NO REASON WHY THIS COOPERATION SHOULD NOT BE EXTENDED ON A BROADER BASIS INTO INTERNATIONAL FORUMS AS WELL. INDEED, WE WOULD LIKE TO ENCOURAGE MEXICO TO TAKE A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS MATTERS. FEW OTHER COUNTRIES ARE AS KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE ILLICIT NARCOTICS TRAFFIC OR AS DEEPLY COMMITTED TO COMBATTING IT.

4. STILL, WE WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO SUPPORT MEXICO'S BID FOR THE PRESIDENCY IN AN OPEN CONTEST WITH THE SOVIET VICE PRESIDENT OF THE CND WHO BELIEVES, TOO, THAT HE HAS LEGITIMATE RIGHT TO THIS POST. OUR SUPPORT, THEREFORE, WOULD DEPEND ON SUCCESSFUL RESOLUTION OF THIS ISSUE IN THE TALKS THE GOM HAS ALREADY INITIATED WITH THE USSR. WE CAN OFFER ASSURANCE THAT IF THE SOVIETS WITHDRAW THEIR CANDIDATE AT THE NEXT CND MEETING AND INDICATE TO THE CND THAT THIS IS IN FAVOR OF THE MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL, WE COULD SUPPORT AND PROMOTE THE CANDIDACY OF OJEDA PAULLADA.

5. DR. CASTRO REQUESTED OUR SUPPORT ON THIS ISSUE IN HIS LETTER TO AMBASSADOR VANCE OF JULY 14, 1975. THE
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FOLLOWING DRAFT REPLY TO DR. CASTRO FOLLOWS THE U.S. POSITION AS STATED ABOVE. IF THE EMBASSY CONCURS WITH THE DRAFT, AMBASSADOR JOVA SHOULD CONVEY THE LETTER TO DR. CASTRO. THE EMBASSY HAS COPY OF DR. CASTRO'S LETTER OF JULY 14.

6. BEGIN TEXT: LETTER FROM AMBASSADOR VANCE TO DR. CASTRO.

DEAR DIRECTOR CASTRO Y CASTRO:

I WISH TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF JULY 14, 1975, CONCERNING THE DEEP INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO

IN THE CHAIRMANSHIP FOR THE UPCOMING SESSION OF THE
COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS OF THE UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL. I HOPE YOU WILL EXCUSE THE
DELAY IN MY REPLY, WHICH WAS DUE TO MY ABSENCE FROM

WASHINGTON ON A SPECIAL MISSION.

I AGREE ENTIRELY WITH YOU THAT MY GOOD FRIEND ATTORNEY
GENERAL OJEDA PAULLADA WOULD BE AN EXCELLENT CHOICE AS THE
CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION. HIS UNFLAGGING DEVOTION TO
OUR COMMON PROGRAM OF SUPPRESSION OF NARCOTICS, AS
EVIDENCED BY THE SUCCESSES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO IN
ERADICATION AND INTERDICTION OF NARCOTICS, EMPHASIZES HIS
QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE POSITION. AS YOU KNOW FROM OUR
CONVERSATIONS, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS
ATTORNEY GENERAL OJEDA PAULLADA ONE OF OUR MOST ABLE
COLLEAGUES IN THE WORLDWIDE STRUGGLE TO CONTROL AND REDUCE
NARCOTICS TRAFFIC.

IT IS, THEREFORE, MOST UNFORTUNATE THAT THE COMMISSION
HAS SUCH RIGID RULES CONCERNING THE SUCCESSION TO THE
CHAIRMANSHIP AND OTHER POSITIONS. UNDER THESE RULES THE
SOVIET VICE CHAIRMAN BELIEVES HE HAS A LEGITIMATE RIGHT
TO THE POST, BUT, IF YOUR GOVERNMENT CAN PERSUADE THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS TO
PROPOSE DEFERRAL OF THE ELEVATION OF ITS CANDIDATE FOR THE
CHAIRMANSHIP FOR A YEAR, AND INDICATE THAT THIS ACTION IS
TAKEN IN FAVOR OF THE MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL, WE WOULD
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GLADLY SUPPORT AND PROMOTE THE CANDIDACY OF MY GOOD FRIEND,
ATTORNEY GENERAL OJEDA PAULLADA.

ALLOW ME TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ASSURE YOU OF MY
WARM PERSONAL REGARDS.

SINCERELY,

SHELDON B. VANCE
SENIOR ADVISER AND COORDINATOR FOR
INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS MATTERS

END TEXT. KISSINGER

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